READING FILE:

Service Date: June 10, 1981

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

* * * * * *

IN THE MATTER of the Application)
OF THE CONSUMERS GAS COMPANY For)
Authority to Increase Its Natural)
Gas Rates.)

UTILITY DIVISION
DOCKET NOS. 6628, 6708, 6747
6788, 6792 and
80.5.28
DEFAULT ORDER NO. 4815

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. The Consumers Gas Company filed petitions with the Montana Public Service Commission requesting that the Commission pursuant to jurisdiction granted by Sections 69-3-101 et seq., MCA, authorize it to increase its natural gas rates to offset the increased cost of gas purchased from Treasure State Pipeline Company who, in turn, purchases its gas from Montana Power Company, Hardrock Oil Company and Petroleum Products, Inc.
 - 2. The applications were approved on an interim basis.
- 3. A notice of opportunity for public hearing was served April 21, 1981 with requests for hearing to be received on or before May 19, 1981. No requests were received.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Commission has jurisdiction over the rates and tariffs of the applicant.
 - 2. Rates approved herein are found to be just and reasonable.

ORDER

- 1. The increased cost of gas to the applicant represent a legitimate operating expense.
- 2. Rates approved on an interim basis are hereby made permanent for service rendered on and after May 26, 1981.

DONE IN OPEN SESSION by a vote of 5-0 at a meeting of the Public Service Commissions held May 26, 1981.

BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

GORDON E. BOLLINGER, Chairman

JOHN B. DRISCOLL, Commissioner

HOWARD L. ELLIS, Commissioner

CLYDE TARVIS Commissioner

Thomas J. Schneider, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Madeline L. Cottrill
Secretary

(SEAL)

NOTE: You may be entitled to judicial review of the final decision in this matter. If no Motion For Reconsideration is filed, judicial review may be obtained by filing a petition for review within thirty (30) days from the service of this order. If a Motion For Reconsideration is filed, a Commission order is final for purpose of appeal upon passage of ten (10) days following the filing of that motion. cf. the Montana Administrative Procedure Act, esp. Sec. 2-4-702, MCA, andCommission Rules of Practice and Procedure, esp. 38.2.4806, ARM.